

**Ambassador Feinstein's Remarks for Introduction of Sanchez at Business Summit  
Opening  
June 20, 2012, Business Summit, 09:00**

Ladies and Gentlemen, as Deputy Prime Minister Pawlak has eloquently said, this is indeed an important day. President Obama and Prime Minister Tusk announced this summit a little more than one year ago, based on our governments' commitment to taking the U.S.-Polish commercial relationship to a higher level.

In designing this summit to include both government and business leaders, President Obama and Prime Minister Tusk recognized that while governments can provide the conditions to encourage trade and investment, it is up to the private sector to act. I would like to add my welcome to all of the business leaders who have come here today, especially those that have travelled from the United States.

Your presence here today demonstrates that the commercial opportunities between the world's largest economy and Europe's fastest growing are real and are worth exploring. I look forward to today's discussions on how our two countries can best harness those opportunities to grow our businesses, create new jobs, strengthen our economies – and in the process, become even closer partners.

On behalf of the United States and my Embassy team, I wish to thank Deputy Prime Minister Pawlak. He and his Ministry have been key drivers behind the efforts to make this summit a reality. Our partnership has never been stronger, and the Polish government's commitment to enhancing our commercial relationship has been a key ingredient to making today's gathering possible.

I would also like to thank the American Chamber of Commerce, the U.S.-Polish Business Council, and the Polish Confederation of Private Employers (Lewiatan) for their dedication and hard work in putting together this wonderful event here at the Copernicus Center. Jozef, Eric, and Henryka – you've outdone yourselves.

We are indeed fortunate that top leaders of the U.S. Commerce Department will join us today -- Acting Secretary of Commerce Rebecca Blank will be with us for the Summit Roundtable this afternoon.

This morning I am very pleased to introduce the Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade Francisco Sánchez. Secretary Sánchez is a good friend of Poland and strong advocate of our bilateral commercial relationship.

Secretary Sánchez is the Department of Commerce's top official for international affairs. He leads the International Trade Administration at Commerce, which plays an important role in the formulation of U.S. trade policy, advocates for U.S. companies overseas, addresses market access and compliance issues, and administers U.S. trade laws.

Secretary Sánchez has visited Poland twice previously, demonstrating the Obama Administration's commitment to deepening and broadening our ties with Poland. Many of you may have met him and Assistant Secretary Camunez last night at the AmCham event.

During his first visit to Poland in July, 2010, Secretary Sanchez signed a Joint Declaration with the Ministry of Economy concerning Industrial and Commercial Cooperation in the Nuclear Energy Sector. This agreement is a key component of the U.S-Polish partnership in energy.

For some reason it seems Secretary Sanchez particularly loves to come to Poland when there is an important soccer match going on. I know he is disappointed about some of the results so far, like the rest of us here today, but I think he's at least happy to see Spain advancing to the quarterfinals!

Secretary Sanchez, it is indeed a pleasure for me to welcome you again to Poland and to welcome you to the Business Summit. The floor is yours.